



02355.011109

PATENT APPLICATION

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
Yukio SAKAGAWA, ET AL.) Examiner: Unassigned
Application No.: 09/512,836) Group Art Unit: Unassigned
Filed: February 25, 2000)
For: IMAGE PROCESSING METHOD) December 12, 2002
AND APPARATUS)

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Technology Center 2600

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed documents are enclosed.

The listed documents were cited in two Office Actions respectively issued in two counterpart Japanese applications on September 20, 2002. Copies of the two Office Actions are enclosed for the Examiner's convenience.

Regarding the cited article, Applicants submit that the document discloses Mixed Reality as the technique for constructing and rendering mixed environments in which the real environment and a virtual environment are mixed. However, that documents does not disclose or suggest shading or shadowing a virtual object in an Image Based Rendering

(IBR) technique.

The other documents are accompanied by English-language Abstracts that Applicants believe sufficiently summarize the relevant aspect of the disclose subject matter.

STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)

Each item of information in this information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing date of this Statement.

REMARKS

It is respectfully requested that the cited information be considered by the Examiner, that the next official communication indicate that such information has been considered, and that the Examiner initial the enclosed Form PTO-1449 indicating that the information listed thereon has been considered.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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